



Koppe-Skinner House

Galion Historical Society Office

The Koppe-Skinner House, located at 201 S. Union Street, is currently the office of the Galion Historical Society.

The house was built circa 1863 and is one of the oldest houses in Galion.

Charles A. Koppe was the original owner of the house. Many of you may remember Mrs. Jean Skinner who had her piano studio at this location. We appreciate Mrs. Skinner's generosity as we were able to acquire this

property at a very reasonable price, preserve the property, and utilize the office as our working space to help preserve and promote Galion's history.

Charles Koppe was born in Germany, came to America and on January 21, 1864 in Franklin County, Ohio married Eva Schneider. By 1870, Charles and Eva were living in North Robinson, Ohio where Charles was a shoemaker. Living with them were their three children, Salina (1865), Emilia (1867), and Charles, Jr. (1869).

By 1900, Eva was widowed and living at 201 S. Union Street in Galion, Ohio with 9 of her children: Amelia (1867), Lydia (1871), Wesley (1873), William (1875), Carrie (1876), Joseph (1878), Laura (1881), Benjamin (1884), and Paul William (1891). Charles, Jr. and his wife were living at 132 Cherry Street in Galion and Salina was married to J. D. Bauman and living in the state of Washington.

By 1990, Mrs. Jean Skinner bought this house, the year after her husband, Dr. Charles Skinner, passed away. She renovated the building and started teaching piano students that spring. She earned a Bachelor of Music Education from Oberlin, and taught for many years at North Elementary School in Galion. She also was the choir director at First Presbyterian in Galion, and was active in music at both Peace Lutheran and First Lutheran Churches.



She had dozens and dozens of students over the years at her piano studio here. She had most of her annual recitals at either Peace Lutheran or First Lutheran Church. She sold the house to the Historical Society in 2007 and then taught from her home on Laughbaum Drive before retiring from teaching.

Thank you, Jean Skinner!